

Amendments to the Claims:

These amendments to the claims replace any previously filed version of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A resin coated carrier for an electrophotographic developer characterized by comprising spherical ~~ferrite~~ particles, ~~having wherein said spherical particles consist of ferrite and have~~ an average particle size of 20 to 50 μm , a surface uniformity of 92 to 100%, an average sphericity of 1 to 1.3, and a sphericity standard deviation of 0.125 or less.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The resin-coated carrier for an electrophotographic developer according to claim 1, wherein the spherical ~~ferrite~~ particles have an apparent density of 2.0 to 2.6 g/cm^3 a magnetization of 40 to 90 Am^2/kg in a magnetic field of 79.5 A/m , and a scattered material magnetization of 80% or more of a main body magnetization.

4. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a resin-coated carrier for an electrophotographic developer, the process comprising ~~weighing and~~ mixing ferrite raw materials, crushing the mixture, granulating the ~~obtained slurry~~ ~~obtained crushed mixture to produce granules~~, ~~pre-sintering the granules at 500 to 700 $^{\circ}\text{C}$~~ , sintering the granules ~~for 0.1 to 5 hours at a sintering temperature of 1200 to 1400 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ under~~

fluidization, and coating the sintered material, with a resin, ~~characterized in that the granules are pre-sintered at 500 to 700 °C before sintering, the sintering is performed for 0.1 to 5 hours at a sintering temperature of 1200 to 1400 °C while the granules are made to flow by fluidizing means.~~

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The process for producing a resin-coated carrier for an electrophotographic developer according to claim 4, wherein the ~~sintering is performed by a rotary sintering furnace~~ granules are sintered in a rotary sintering furnace.

8. (Original) The process for producing a resin-coated carrier for an electrophotographic developer according to claim 7, wherein the rotary sintering furnace has a retort rotation speed of 0.5 to 10 rpm, a retort inclination of 0.5 to 4°, an inlet hammering frequency of 10 to 300 times/min, and an outlet hammering frequency of 10 to 300 times/min.

9. (Previously Presented) An electrophotographic developer comprising the resin-coated carrier according to claim 1 and a toner.